

## **WELCOME FROM GENERAL CHAIR**

On behalf of the American Automatic Control Council (AACC) and the Program and Operating Committees, I am delighted to welcome you to the 2005 American Control Conference (ACC). Held under the auspices of AACC, the US National Member Organization of the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), the ACC brings together people working in control, automation, and related areas from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), Association of Iron and Steel Engineers (AISE), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the International Society for Measurement and Control (ISA), and the Society for Computer Simulation (SCS).

This is the first time in the history of the ACC the conference is being held in this beautiful city of Portland, Oregon and I hope you will find the time to enjoy its many attractions. This is the time of the famous Portland Rose Festival and you will have an opportunity to watch the nation's second-largest all-floral parade from the hotel. Nestled in the heart of the Willamette Valley, Portland sits squarely between the Pacific Ocean (90 minutes by car) and the 10,000 plus foot tops of the Cascade Mountain Range (Mount Hood is 1 hour by car). A 45 minute drive east from town will get you to the middle of the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area, a place of breathtaking beauty which includes the 620-foot Multnomah Falls. Portland's downtown area is scaled to human dimensions. The blocks are short, just 200 feet long. Cafes, restaurants, bookstores, galleries and specialty stores are waiting around every corner. Green suited "Portland Guides" walk through downtown streets day and night answering questions and helping with directions. Tri-Met, Portland's mass transit system, and MAX, Tri-Met's light rail system allow free rides in the Fareless Square, a region encompassing much of the downtown area and extending into the Lloyd District, including the Oregon Convention Center and the Rose Quarter. One hundred acre Washington Park in the west hills above Portland encompasses the International Rose Test Gardens with more than 400 varieties of roses, the peaceful contemplation of the Japanese Gardens and the Oregon Zoo with its world-class elephant exhibit. There are many things to see and do for everyone, from little children to adults, while you are here and I hope you will take advantage of the many tours that we put together for you and your family's enjoyment.

The annual American Control Conference begun in 1982 has always been an outstanding success. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our volunteers on the operating and program committees and the numerous anonymous reviewers over the past two years, ACC2005 is no exception. We have three full days of great technical papers, a total of over 900 papers from many countries around the world presented in eighteen parallel tracks; three plenary sessions; 12 industry tutorial sessions featuring a one-hour tutorial presentation on an industrially proven but still relatively new technique followed by a series of short presentations from industrial participants discussing the implementation, application, and benefits of the technique and cover a number of topics of high industrial relevance; two interactive sessions; a number of special sessions; three 2 day and three 1 day workshops covering emerging topics to some more established ones; and several social events and organized sightseeing tours.

Our program was designed to respond to your needs whether you are a long term practitioner or new to the controls community. Our goal is to help you understand and advance the state of the art in controls through our papers, tutorials, workshops and exhibits. For over 20 years the ACC has been one of the premier international conferences for controls professionals to come together and share experiences, research and knowledge. I hope you will take full advantage of these three days to learn new things, meet new people, and advance your own knowledge and experiences.

We are glad you are here in Portland at the 2005 ACC and hope you will have a wonderful time and take back happy memories. The following pages of the final program will give you more information about the conference. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to stop by the conference registration desk or ask any volunteer on the operating committee.

*Suhada Jayasuriya*  
*General Chair, 2005 ACC*